

Hartington Hall

Skipthorpe

Tuesday 2 July '35

My Dearest René

On this day 19 years ago I heard read-
g the officer commanding B Coy. a document,
a rescript from G.H.Q., ~~the~~ announcing the
initial success of the first attacks on
his trenches on the Somme. We were
permitted to cheer. I can't tell you
the quivering thoughts as well up in you
tossing at this memory.

Dear René it was nice to hear from you.
This is a simply heavenly place I do

wish you were here. - It really ~~feels~~ like
Coke in many ways - but more
prosperous & less instinct with
the waste land feeling. But the
general formation of river, trees;
hill slope, tumbled stone wall & such -

things remarkably similar - all
private to young Kit. & - very nice.

This house is solid, comfortable, & Victorian
& filled tight as tight with books. So
that you don't know where to read at all.

So as usual you find yourself reading
somewhere you might read anywhere -

'the listener' or Burke's Peerage.

Here is a nice Joyce bit I
read this morning in the latter

no today when
no words altered
or transposed*

Two lions per pale crenellée for Bertie
a trefoil slipped vert
for griffith.

2nd & 3rd quarters a chevron ermine
between three englishmen's heads in profile;
couped at the neck & bearded proper
for griffith of Penrhyn.

the Bertie part
is transposed
for another coat

I thought about you & Joan on Saturday -
I'm sorry probence couldn't come. - I
remember she said it might be difficult - she
originally thought it was on Sunday.
So it's Richard Thomas many - not
Richard many Thomas. - Yes - I think
it's better like the 1st. that is, with Hague
at the end. Do give my love to dear Joan
it's nice about the barnikin. That's grand
drink me health. sed cork - I expect
you'll have the artillery & HQ & Specialist
details & all round pretty friendly-like.
It soon leaks out. when there's a wet
on the taphee. with a ship making
word that - but authentic enough.
as. "The Q.M.'s got some fine bonza
cordigans on the taphee"

skipli.
* Canceled
straight to
Harrgate
leave N.C at
1351 hrs.

I go to Rock on Monday July 8th.
Kit & Valery go to London on that day
my route is ~~via~~ ~~skipli~~ de. Staff car
Repat at Rm head. return at 11.38 at
~~detain~~ Harrgate. for Alnmouth via
Newcastle ^{1351 hrs} ~~detain~~ at alm. 3.29 ~~from~~ Sorry, 15.29 hrs. met by

mechanized
moss cart
colonial wilds in

late
july 2nd

Black midnight in the old big gee room
down in 1st fl. ready to snore off -

Thought I would continue this letter
to your old pal but damnation
too tired. just heard Kit put out
his Electric light poor Kit he
never sleeps without Sedormid & C
& then hardly at all - he does seem
fair & ill. Even I seem a regular
~~the~~ Bruiser with a fine swagger
on me & a hike in the bag of me
compared with his health. I do
wish he could be made well.
he is so nice God bless Rene
I hope. Chied Richard is well
down damped down & under
as all as peaceful as the heavenly
regions. Some fucker has left
a door open here - its banging
about like, wof, like I don't

july 3. wed. Know what -

8. something am. Wake up, think what of this life.
is it alright? They bring me tea
I can see the top of a hill where I
lie, & some soft-wood plantations.
Wonder what Hague is up to -
perhaps pushing that ^{was} thing in the
Princess store in & out down in the kitchen

Late, after lunch July 3rd.
 Went for a walk over the hills along the
 morning & back under deep green places by the
 river & sat & shouted psalms in Welsh - I in
 Book of Common Prayer in English & Welsh
 gives me great pleasure. & you can
 learn a few words as you go along. I at 7th St.
 the sons of the work for Blessed V. Mary.
 & they are ~~Fendigedig Fair Foryn~~
~~Vendigedig Vire Vorwein~~
 Fendigedig Fair Foryn. pronounced roughly
 vendigedig Vire Vorwein
 like i in fire.
 We are going this afternoon to see a place
 called Gras-wood - which is a tangled wood
 and the size of Mametz - a mile or so square
 very ancient & the sight of a British village
 & fortified hill - I am sure that post-Roman
 perhaps the capital of Urien Rheged -
 who became the Uriens in the M. d'Arthur.
 I should rather like to snore off the afternoon
 but I want to see this place. Did Tom
 talk about poor Henry John - I like he
 is not too upset by it all. Sorry you
 missed Haman - it was my fault for not
 remembering to tell you he has had to go
 away suddenly - it was because of that
 rush at the end that I forgot - I remembered
 as I waved my hand - then I thought you
 would 'phone before you went - so covered myself
 with that. Prudence says you had a
 nice loaf to get & ate ham sandwich in
 a bar. - so with I am sure have

see you in
 I mean to write
 second rate compared with
 what it is, I seem to
 give my one to Joan & Peter & enjoy it
 as I agree - but I as enjoy it as I can
 human words - but I as enjoy it as I can
 the great - human words - but I as enjoy it as I can
 the pair of Jane Austen - but I as enjoy it as I can

like Captain meaning
 the makes me laugh &
 very much come to you & and